

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is filed as the submission for the accompanying Request for Continued Examination. In response to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences' affirmation of the Examiner's final rejection, Applicant has amended the claims to further distinguish the art of record. Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance and requests the Examiner to move the case to issue.

All of the independent claims pending in the application now call for, either as a step in a method or as an element of an apparatus command data included as a part of an input bit stream. The input bit stream includes a plurality of audio/video channels. The command data and the plurality of audio/video channels are multiplexed in a predetermined order. The command data and the plurality of audio/video channels are then demultiplexed and the audio/video channels are recorded. Audio/video channels that have been recorded are reproduced at least in part based on the demultiplexed command data.

These features of the present invention are not taught by the cited prior art references either standing alone or in combination. Accordingly, the amended claim are not unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 and should be allowed.

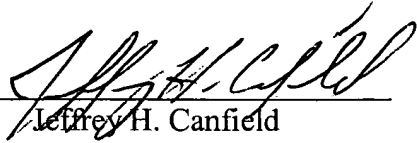
For these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presently amended are all in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore requests that the Examiner allow the claims move the application to issue. However, if there are any remaining issues the Examiner is encourage to call Applicants' attorney, Jeffrey H. Canfield at (312) 807-4233 in order to facilitate a speedy disposition of the present case.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this response they may be charged to deposit account no. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY



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